



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**BLM**news  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BURNS DISTRICT 28910 HWY 20 WEST HINES, OR 97738 (541) 573-4400 [www.or.blm.gov/burns/](http://www.or.blm.gov/burns/)

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Contact:

Tara Wilson  
541.573.4400

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET IN BEND**

The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, September 15-16, 2003, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day, in the South/Middle Sisters conference room at the Riverhouse Motel, 3075 North Business 97, in Bend, Oregon.

On Monday, the meeting will open with updates from the Chairman and Designated Federal Official, followed by the introduction of a new facilitation process. The remainder of Monday and all of Tuesday morning will be dedicated to discussing wilderness inholder access. Following lunch on Tuesday, the SMAC will discuss fence construction in Kiger Gorge, plan the November agenda, and set the 2004 meeting schedule before adjourning at 4:30 p.m. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC may also be discussed at any time during the 2-day meeting. If you would like a copy of the complete draft agenda, please visit our Web site at [www.or.blm.gov/Steens](http://www.or.blm.gov/Steens) and click on ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may contribute during public comment sessions scheduled at 11:00 a.m. each day. Those who orally address the SMAC during the public comment period are asked to provide a written statement of their presentation as well. Unless otherwise approved by the SMAC Chair, public comment periods will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SMAC for a maximum of 5 minutes.

##### MORE #####

If you have information you would like distributed to all SMAC members, please send it to Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, no later than 10 days prior to the start of the meeting. If you send information or general correspondence to anyone at the Burns District Office and would like a courtesy copy given to the SMAC, please write "COPY TO SMAC" on the envelope and enclosed document(s).

Current SMAC members and their representation include:

Richard Benner - No Financial Interest  
Stacy Davies - Grazing Permittee  
Alice Elshoff - Environmental Representative-Local  
Vacant - Dispersed Recreation  
E. Ron Harding - Wild Horse Management  
Tom Harris, Chair - Mechanized or Consumptive Recreation  
Wanda Johnson - Burns Paiute Tribe  
Jason Miner - Fish and Recreational Fishing  
Jerry Sutherland, Vice Chair - Environmental Representative-State  
Hoyt Wilson - Grazing Permittee  
Cynthia Witzel - Recreation Permit Holder  
Harland Yriarte - Private Landowner  
Steve Purchase - State Government Liaison (nonvoting member)

The Designated Federal Official is Karla Bird, Andrews Resource Area Field Manager.

For further information on the SMAC or the upcoming meeting, contact Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office at 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon, or call (541) 573-4400, weekdays, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. You may also visit the Steens Web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Steens> .